

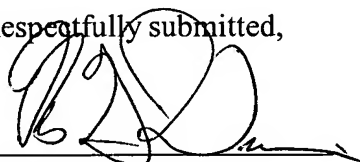
***Remarks***

Entry of the amendments prior to a first office action is respectfully requested. The amendments place the claims in a format more suited for U.S. practice.

A prompt action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Date: 9/5/06

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. G. Wiseman', written over a horizontal line.

Thomas G. Wiseman  
Registration No. 35,046  
VENABLE  
P.O. Box 34385  
Washington, D.C. 20043-9998  
Telephone: (202) 344-4000  
Telefax: (202) 344-8300

#781650